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EGHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1949

Egham Urban District Council

REPORT

TO THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
EGHAM, SURREY

FOR

THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1949

BY

A. GEDEN WILKINSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Medical Officer of Health

Egham Urban District Council

Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health-A. GEDEN WILKINSON, M.B.,
(Part-time) Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Sanitary Inspector-F. G. BRITCHER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Certificate of the R.S.I. and
S.I.E.J.B., Certified Meat and Food
Inspector.

Second Sanitary Inspector-R. I. SHEPHERD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Certificate of the R.S.I. and
S.I.E.J.B., Certified Meat and Food
Inspector.

Third Sanitary Inspector-W. R. W. SHATTOCK, M.S.I.A., Cert. of
the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B. (From
1st February, 1949).

Rodent Officer—A. E. SILVER.

Housing Assistant (Temporary)—T. T. SANDERS.

Clerk—Miss D. WINGFIELD.

Trainee—M. P. SEARLE

SECTION A

STATISTICS

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

				1949	1948	Average for five years
						1944-1948
Population (Registrar General's estimate at mid-year)				24,630	24,080	22,318
Live Births						
Legitimate				338	383	337.2
Illegitimate				21	14	20.2
Total				359	397	357.4
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ...				14.57	16.49	15.97
Still-Births						
Legitimate				4	9	7.0
Illegitimate				—	1	0.8
Total				4	10	7.8
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births				11.03	24.57	20.93
Deaths				209	236	233.8
Comparability factor				1.00	—	—
Death-rate (per 1,000 population) ...				8.49	9.80	10.48
Deaths from puerperal causes						
29 Puerperal sepsis				1	0	0
30 Other maternal causes				0	0	0
Total				1	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births				2.76	—	—
Deaths of infants under one year of age						
Legitimate				7	8	12.0
Illegitimate				3	0	1.0
Total				10	8	13.0
Death rate of infants under one year of age						
All infants per 1,000 live births ...				27.86	20.15	36.69
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				20.71	20.88	36.11
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				142.86	—	49.76

CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES)

(Figures supplied by Registrar-General)

	Causes of Death		Males	Females	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	—	—
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	4	—	4
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	1	—	1
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	—	—	—
9.	Influenza	...	1	—	1
10.	Measles	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-enceph.	...	1	1	2
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buc. cav. and œsoph. (M)	...	3	—	3
	uterus (F)	...	—	3	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	5	6
15.	Cancer of breast	...	1	4	5
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	14	8	22
17.	Diabetes	...	—	—	—
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions	...	6	16	22
19.	Heart diseases	...	44	35	79
20.	Other diseases of Circulatory System	...	4	7	11
21.	Bronchitis	...	6	1	7
22.	Pneumonia	...	3	2	5
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	2	—	2
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	2	—	2
25.	Diarrhoea under two years	...	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	1	—	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	1	4	5
28.	Nephritis	...	2	2	4
29.	Puerperal and Post-abort. Sepsis	...	—	1	1
30.	Other Maternal causes	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	...	1	1	2
32.	Congenital Malformations, etc.	...	3	1	4
33.	Suicide	...	—	—	—
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	—	3	3
35.	Other violent causes	...	2	3	5
36.	All other causes	...	4	5	9
All causes		...	107	102	209

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1949

Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population	Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population	Rate per 1,000 Live Births		Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	
		Still Births	Live Births	Total Deaths under one year	Deaths from one year
England and Wales	16.7*	0.39*	11.7*	0.00	0.01
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London	18.7	0.47	12.5	0.00	0.00
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	18.0	0.40	11.6	0.00	0.01
London	18.5	0.37	12.2	0.00	0.01
Egham	14.57	0.16	8.5	—	0.20
				32†	3.0
					† Per 1,000 total population
					* Per 1,000 related live births

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The Surrey County Council as the Local Health Authority is responsible for the Ambulance and Medical Transport Services.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of water are carried out by the Clinical Research Association Ltd., London.

Bacteriological examinations of milk, ice cream and water, are undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom, together with such other specimens as need examination from time to time. This service has been very satisfactory, though the journey by road of some 36 miles, which has been found to be the only satisfactory way of delivering the samples to the laboratory, is somewhat of a handicap.

Swabs and other clinical specimens are also examined at the Public Health Laboratories at either Epsom or Reading.

Infectious Cases.

The Ottershaw Joint Hospital Board are responsible for the service and use their own Ambulance.

Nursing in the Home.

The District Nursing Associations provide six fully trained and very efficient Nurses who spend all their time visiting patients in the district.

Midwives.

These six Nurses are part-time Midwives under the Midwives Act, 1936, and work under the regulations of the County Council.

Personal Cleansing Centre.

This service continues to be administered through my department. The Council employs a nurse on a half-time basis for the treatment of women and children. The treatment of adult males is carried out by appointment, usually during the evening, by a man attached to the Public Health Department for general work. Arrangements have worked satisfactorily during the year.

During 1949, 33 persons suffering from scabies, or contacts, were treated at the Centre, the total being made up of 18 adults and 15 children, 3 of whom were under school age. These figures are rather higher than in 1948, when 10 adults and 13 children were treated, but are still very much less than in 1947 and the war years.

One case of Pediculus Pubis in a male received treatment.

Clinics and other Treatment Centres.

These are administered by the Surrey County Council and deal with Ante-Natal Care, Child Welfare, School Children, Dental Treatment, Tuberculosis, Physiotherapy and Speech Defects.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

The South West Suburban Water Company supplies the greater part of the area, and this supply has proved satisfactory during the year, both in quality and quantity. A regular check has been maintained on the quality of the supply by means of a Joint Scheme with all the Local Authorities served by this Company. Under this scheme fortnightly samples of water are taken from the districts concerned in rotation, and the results of these samples are notified to each Local Authority.

The samples of water are taken as the water goes into supply and none have been taken of the raw water. Twenty-four samples were taken during the year, and both chemical and bacteriological analyses were made on each sample. All the reports showed the water to be safe for drinking purposes.

In addition ten samples were taken of the water supply at various premises not supplied directly from the public mains.

Of the 6,366 dwelling houses in the area all but approximately 200 are on the main water supply. 146 premises have been connected to the Company's main during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE SCHEME

Sewage Disposal Works.

These have continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year, though in long wet periods they are very hard pressed to deal with surface water which gains access to the system.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewerage system continues to operate satisfactorily and further pumping sets have been ordered to replace present equipment as and when required.

Disposal of Cesspool Contents.

The Council now operates two cesspool emptying vehicles, together with a combined cesspool gulley emptier, which is used approximately half time on cesspool emptying and during the remainder of its time by the Highways Department.

In December the practice of emptying the contents of the cesspool emptiers into the sewer at one of the Pumping Stations was discontinued in view of the heavy wear and tear on the equipment at the Pumping Station caused by grit and other debris picked up by the cesspool emptiers. The vehicles now discharge their loads directly into the sewage disposal works at Chertsey.

The demand on this service continues to rise sharply. In 1939 the total amount of sewage removed by the one vehicle then engaged on this work was approximately 723,000 gallons. In 1946 this had risen to a total of 1,532,000 gallons, two vehicles by then being in use, and in 1949 the total reached 3,076,000 gallons, more than four times the 1939 figure. In September the Council was forced for financial reasons to reduce the number of emptyings allowed for each premises free of charge from nine to six per year, but in spite of this the demand is still heavy and it is difficult to maintain as good a service as is aimed at.

Rivers and Streams.

Serious pollution of a small stream suddenly occurred in July. In co-operation with the Thames Conservancy the source of the pollution was traced to an overflow from a farmyard cesspool, and to a leak from another cesspool serving a small cottage; both faults were immediately rectified by the owners concerned.

While no other cases of serious pollution were noted during the year, some ditches remain a source of trouble. From time to time they are cleaned out, but inevitably further rubbish soon finds its way into them ; the culprit is hardly ever found.

Closet Accommodation.

A number of pail closets still exist in the rural parts of the district, the majority being in the Thorpe Ward, but most of the properties in the unsewered portions of the district are on water carriage systems connected to cesspools.

At the beginning of the year the Council's new service of collecting the contents of pail closets in the Thorpe Ward once weekly came into operation. It is carried out by the use of one of the cesspool emptying vehicles fitted with a special attachment, and has operated throughout the year without complaint, an average of about 120 premises being served each week.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

In the early part of the year the refuse collection service was reduced in the interests of economy, to once a fortnight, but was restored in June to a weekly collection. Salvaged materials are generally collected in a trailer attached to the refuse collection vehicle. Towards the end of the year the market for salvage was such that the salvage scheme was discontinued except for the collection of paper, scrap metal, and kitchen waste.

The refuse continued to be deposited in a disused gravel pit and serious complaints of nuisance arising from this practice were received during the summer, an exceptionally hot and dry one. The nuisance from insects, chiefly flies, was controlled as far as possible by the use of insecticides, but the main problem was fly breeding which cannot be controlled merely by the use of insecticides. Serious nuisance also arose from tip fires. The answer to the problem is clearly a complete reorganisation of the system of tipping, a matter which was still under consideration at the end of the year.

As the Council of the Royal Borough of New Windsor was in serious difficulties over the disposal of its refuse, we agreed to receive it at our Tip ; this has been done since last May. This refuse is handled at the Tip by the Council's employees, for which payment is received from Windsor. The amount of refuse from this source is about the same as that collected in this district.

Approx. No. of bins, etc.	...	...	...	8,000 weekly
Approx. weekly quantity of refuse (excluding trade refuse)	...	...	...	300 tons
Particulars of salvage material collected	...			Paper, Rags, Scrap Iron & Kitchen Waste
No. of lorries	...	...	...	5
Employees				
No. of Collectors (excluding drivers)	...			17
No. of men at Pit (including Foreman)	...			4

Collection of Pigs'will.

A duplicate set of bins continued to be used for this collection during the warmer months. After each weekly collection the soiled bins were washed and sprayed inside and out with a D.D.T. solution and were then ready to be taken out to replace the other set at the next collection. By this means bins were kept in a fairly satisfactory state.

SANITARY INSPECTION

The following inspections were made during the year :—
Public Health Act, 1936

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	1120
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	111
Infestations	...	...	...	82
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	57
Water Supply	...	...	...	54
Water Sampling	...	...	...	21
Drainage and Sewerage	...	...	...	365
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	173
Watercourses and Streams	...	...	...	21
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	61
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	33
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	97
				— 2195

Housing Act

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	299
Applicants for Rehousing	...	...	...	515
Council Houses	...	...	...	1951
Permitted Numbers	...	...	...	14
				— 2779

Food and Drugs Act, etc.

Food Premises	...	...	...	49
Ice Cream Premises, etc.	...	...	...	55
Cowsheds, Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	...	...	...	55
Food Inspections	...	...	...	102
Ice Cream Sampling	...	...	...	113
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	66
P.H. Meat Regulations, 1924	...	...	...	37
				— 477

Factories Act

Factories	...	...	...	49
Outworkers	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses	...	...	...	16
				— 71

Egham Urban District Council Act, 1948

Hairdressers	...	...	...	44
Food Hawkers	...	...	...	54
				— 98

Shops Act	...	...	...	6
Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919	...	...	...	3437
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	87
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	17
Requisitioning of Premises	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	67
				—

Total 9248

Action taken.

205 Informal Notices were served and 138 were complied with during the year.

23 Statutory Notices were served and 17 complied with during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919**Rodent Control.**

The scheme whereby a consolidated grant of 50% of the approved net expenditure incurred was refunded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries continued during the year.

Throughout the year the staff engaged on rodent control consisted of one rodent officer, together with a rodent operator, who also undertook various other duties in the department such as disinfection, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

Number of complaints received	409
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

Infestations found

Rats : Major	...	...	...	...	5
Minor	...	...	...	...	367
Mice : Major	...	...	...	...	—
Minor	...	...	...	...	37
					—
					Total 409

**Infestations found as result of independent investigation
(planned survey)**

Rats : Major	...	...	...	...	5
Minor	...	...	...	...	359
Mice : Major	...	...	...	...	2
Minor	...	...	...	...	43
					—
					Total 409

Action Taken

Treated by L.A. Operator (including 18 awaiting treatment at end of 1948)	827
Treated by Occupier	—
Awaiting treatment at end of year ...	8

Estimated Kill

Rats : By poison	4200
By traps or other means ...	59
Mice : By traps or other means ...	117

Block control operations carried out (2 premises or more treated jointly) ...	229.
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Infestations reported to Agricultural Execu- tive Committee	1
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ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

(i)	(a)	Council Houses infested	5
		disinfested	5
	(b)	Private Premises infested	3
		disinfested	...	...	3
	(c)	Requisitioned Premises infested	...	...	3
		disinfested	...	...	3

Methods Employed.

Proprietary brands of insecticides incorporating approximately 5% D.D.T. in a kerosene base were employed. The insecticide was sprayed behind picture rails, architraves, skirting boards and other fittings by the use of a needle jet, and then the whole wall surface was sprayed with the normal spreading jet. Where redecoration was necessary spraying was carried out after redecoration in order to obtain the maximum benefit from the residual deposit of D.D.T.

GENERAL INFESTATION CONTROL

Apart from bed bugs and the continual work on the refuse tip, my department also dealt during the year with the following infestations, using D.D.T. or Gammexane preparations in powder or liquid form, and, for wasps, Potassium Cyanide.

Bats	...	...	...	1
Cockroaches		...	...	5
Flies	...	...	...	1
Wasps	...	...	...	50

The infestation by bats occurred in a dwelling house in the cavities of a wall of hollow block construction, and while bats would perhaps not normally be regarded as pests, in this case they became such an annoyance to the tenants that the aid of the Department was sought. A builder having opened up the roof to expose the tops of the cavities the bats were destroyed or frightened off by the use of neat disinfectant over a period of several days, and the treatment was concluded by a dusting with Gammexane to check the flies which had already started to breed in the many carcasses which could not be retrieved.

An infestation by cockroaches which had existed in greater or lesser degree for some years at a large institution was treated with very gratifying results by the use of a Gammexane preparation. Other preparations incorporating this chemical were used on smaller infestations by this insect, also with good results.

The demand on the services of the Department in destroying wasps' nests became so great during the late summer that the practice of undertaking this work, at a charge, had to be discontinued in all but the most difficult cases, and assistance limited to advice as to the methods to adopt.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Ninety-one Premises are on the register, viz. :—

Garages and motor repairers	...	...	...	17
Engineers other than the above	...	...	...	25
Bakehouses	...	...	...	10
Builders	...	...	...	10
Sand, Gravel and similar trades	...	...	...	3
Tailors, Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous trades	...	...	...	20
				—
				91
				—

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	40	2	—
Factories without mechanical power	9	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	49	2	—

Defects Found.

	Number of Defects			Number of Defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	1	1	—	1
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
insufficient	...	2	1	—	1
unsuitable or defective	...	4	3	—	1
not separate for sexes	...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	...	—	—	—	—
	TOTAL	9	7	—	3

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Two cases of smoke nuisance arose during the year. In the first several complaints were received of the emission of black smoke from a factory chimney. Numerous visits were made but on only one occasion was the complaint really justified. The factory concerned was engaged in the manufacture of MacAdam, oil fuel being used in the process. The cause of the nuisance was found to be a faulty compressor, which was immediately renewed, and no further nuisance arose.

In the second case it was the practice at a large factory to dispose of oily waste matter by burning it from time to time in an incinerator, causing the emission of dense black smoke. Following informal discussions with the management improved arrangements for the disposal of this waste were made.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are in the area several privately owned swimming baths but only one, that at a country hotel, is open to the public. In August the River Thames at the Council's Bathing Station at Runnemede was found to be grossly polluted and notices were posted warning bathers of the state of the water, though most of them were apparently undeterred.

SCHOOLS

There are six elementary, one secondary and eight private schools, together with a Special Subjects Centre. All these schools are served with the South West Suburban Water Company's main supply.

With the exception of the two elementary schools at Thorpe and Christchurch Road, Virginia Water, all are connected to the main drainage. In these two former instances main drainage facilities have not yet been provided.

In all cases connections to the main drainage system were made by utilising the old convenience buildings for the purpose, and, therefore, whilst on main drainage, the arrangements are not satisfactory as the conveniences at the elementary schools are in some remote corner of the playground—common planning in pre-main drainage days. This is not only undesirable from the scholars' point of view, but in times of severe frost contributes to considerable difficulties in the way of "freeze-ups" by reason of the exposed and unprotected positions of these conveniences.

Station Road Schools.

The Council's new surface water sewer was constructed in School Lane during the year, and the work of resurfacing and redraining the playgrounds at this school was carried out.

Egham Hythe Schools.

The old Church Hall continued to be used during the year for canteen purposes and as an emergency classroom. The unsatisfactory conditions upon which I have reported in previous years still continue, the sanitary accommodation and drainage arrangements giving particular cause for concern, though arrangements which were made in July for the emptying of the cesspools twice weekly during term time have relieved the situation considerably.

Thorpe Schools.

These schools are served with pail closet and urinal accommodation. The latter is connected to a soakaway. These primitive arrangements are well maintained, and the closets are emptied twice weekly by this Council's conveyance.

Christchurch School.

This school continues to be served by pail closets. These are emptied by a part-time employee into a cesspool at the rear of the school. This is not a satisfactory arrangement and as the school is to continue in existence the question of draining these closets to the cesspool should be considered.

It is impracticable to connect the premises to the Council's sewer by ordinary methods, but it is understood that the possibility of providing a pump to lift the sewage to the sewer has been under consideration.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Milk supplied 1949

		On Roll	Milk Roll	Grade	Per cent on Milk Roll
Egham	Mixed	434	320	Pasteurised	73.3
	Infants	188	180	Pasteurised	95.7
Englefield Green	Mixed	360	258	Pasteurised	71.7
	Infants	192	190	Pasteurised	99.0
Egham Hythe	Boys	305	285	Pasteurised	93.8
	Girls	296	281	Pasteurised	94.9
	Infants	218	218	Pasteurised	100.0
St. Ann's Heath		142	130	Pasteurised	91.5
Christchurch		107	105	Pasteurised	98.1
Thorpe		81	65	Pasteurised	80.2
		2323	2032		87.5%

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Three hundred and twenty-eight children completed their course of immunisation during the year as follows :—

		Inoculated A.P.T. (2 injections)
School children	...	10
Under fives ...	...	318
		328

In addition 309 children, previously immunised, received boosting doses.

SITES FOR MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There are three approved sites within the district :—

(a) Anglers Rest Hotel Site.

This is a well-maintained site and the type of moveable dwelling on the site is above the average. The site is served by two blocks of sanitary conveniences, one block for males and one block for females, and these are connected to main drainage. Main water supply is laid on. The maximum number of dwellings permitted on the site at any one time is 50. Most of the moveable dwellings on this site are used for weekend purposes. Bins are provided and regular collection of refuse is carried out by the Council.

(b) Fishing Temple, Chertsey Lane.

This site is also well-maintained and houses modern caravans of the motor-drawn trailer type. Most of the caravans are provided with their own Elsan sanitation although sanitary accommodation connected to a cesspool is available for those who prefer to use it. Main water supply is provided on the site. Bins are also provided and regular collection is undertaken by the Council.

Most of the dwellings are used for weekend purposes, but a few are used for regular occupation.

(c) Glanty House Site.

This new site was approved during the year for a maximum of 30 caravans. The site is provided with a supply of main water and sanitary accommodation drained to a cesspool. Refuse bins are provided and emptied by the Council, and the site generally is very well maintained.

In addition to the three permanent sites there are a number of moveable dwellings stationed on individual sites in various parts of the district. During the year 20 licences were issued covering the use of 31 moveable dwellings. Most of these moveable dwellings are used in full-time occupation as a direct result of the housing shortage.

HAIRDRESSERS

By section 58 of the Egham Urban District Council Act, 1948, which came into operation on 1st January, 1949, all persons carrying on the trade of hairdresser or barber were required to register themselves and their premises with the Council. During the year a total of 19 applications were approved for registration.

Byelaws for the purpose of securing the cleanliness of these premises were made, and these came into operation on 1st August.

SECTION D

HOUSING

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	266
	(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	1419
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	12
	(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	17
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	252
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	192
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners	2
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	37
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners	40
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—

(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	—
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which an undertaking was received from the owners	...	—	5	
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	...	...	—
D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :				
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	—
4.	Progress in Housing.				
(1)	Houses erected during the year :				
	(a) by the local authority	...	...	...	84
	(b) by private enterprise	...	...	...	10
(2)	Houses in course of construction at the end of the year :				
	(a) by the local authority	...	...	...	76
	(b) by private enterprise	...	...	...	16

5. Applications for Accommodation.

There were 1039 outstanding applications for Council houses at the end of the year.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice-Cream.

During the year 91 samples of ice-cream were collected for examination and the results are summarised as under :—

(a) Methylene Blue Test :

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
45	19	18	9
(49.4%)	(20.9%)	(19.8%)	(9.9%)

(b) Coliform Test :

Absent in 1/10 ml. ...	52
Present in 1/10 ml. ...	39

Coliform organisms of faecal origin were found in 9 cases, in the remaining 30 cases the organisms being of non-faecal type.

As in past years attention continued to be concentrated on those premises from which previous samples had proved unsatisfactory.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in the case of a fairly large manufacturer whose business was transferred to a factory in this area in 1948. In the early part of the year the results of samples taken were most disappointing, but after much time had been spent, in co-operation with the management, in tracing and eliminating various weaknesses in the methods used, results improved considerably. Better equipment is gradually being adopted and by the end of the year the position had become reasonably satisfactory. Further improvements are in hand including the extension of the premises to house additional equipment.

Two smaller producer-retailers, samples of whose products had proved unsatisfactory, decided to give up manufacturing their own ice-cream and now buy their supplies from larger concerns.

Overall, the results of samples taken during the year show a marked improvement over those obtained in 1948.

Milk Supply.

On 1st October the responsibility for the inspection of cowsheds and the supervision of the conditions under which milk is produced passed from the Council to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Earlier in the year conditions at one small cowshed became very bad and on pressure being brought to bear on the cowkeeper he sold all his stock and was arranging for extensive alterations and improvements to be carried out before the cowshed was again put into use.

56 samples of milk were collected and sent for examination, the results being classified as follows :—

		Pasteurised School Milk	Pasteurised for Retail Sale	Heat Treated	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited (Farm Bottled)	Ungraded	Total
No. of samples tested	...	7	15	3	2	11	18	56
Methylene Blue Test :								
Passed	...	7	15	3	2	11	15	53
Failed	...	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Phosphatase Test :								
Passed	...	7	15	3				25
Failed	...	—	—	—				—
Coliform Test :								
C. absent in 1/100 ml.	...				2	8	12	22
Coli present in 1/100 ml.								
1 tube only	...	...			2	1	3	3
2 tubes only	...	...			—	1	1	1
All 3 tubes	...	...			1	4	5	5

Licences.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1946, the following licences were issued :—

Dealer's Licence to bottle and sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Dealer's Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	3
Dealer's Licence to sell Accredited Milk"	1
Dealer's Licence to bottle and sell Pasteurised Milk ...	1
Dealer's Licence to sell Pasteurised Milk	2
Supplementary Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	4
Supplementary Licence to sell Pasteurised Milk	4

These Regulations were superseded by the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, which came into operation on 1st October, though the licences issued under the old Regulations remained in force until the end of the year. Under the new Regulations the following additional licences were issued :—

Dealer's Licences		
Sterilised Milk	...	1
Supplementary Licences		
Pasteurised Milk	...	1
Sterilised Milk	...	2

Meat Inspection.

Apart from an occasional "cottage's pig" killed under permit from the Ministry of Food, no slaughtering takes place within the Urban District, meat being supplied from Government controlled slaughterhouses in adjoining districts. Inspections were made and certificates given in respect of meat at various butcher's shops which was unfit for human consumption.

The conditions under which meat was transported to the butchers' shops left room for improvement, especially in the warmer months, and this matter was taken up with the appropriate department of the Ministry of Food. Improvements were promised by the provision as soon as possible of new vehicles suitably equipped so that beef as well as mutton could be hung instead of stacked as at present. A great improvement was made early in the year by the provision in these vehicles of metal containers for the carriage of offal.

Food Inspection.

It is a long established and common practice for food retailers who have in their possession food which is unfit or which they think may be unfit to call in a sanitary inspector. If the food is in that officer's opinion unfit the retailer then voluntarily surrenders it to him and receives a certificate with which in certain cases he can claim compensation from his supplier. For a number of years now this procedure has often been adopted for quite trifling amounts of foodstuffs, the retailer being concerned not with recovering the cost of the food, but with getting replacements of rationed or "pointed" goods. It is now noticeable that as the supply position improves the number of requests for the assistance of my department where only very small amounts of food are involved is falling off.

During the year certificates were given in respect of the following foodstuffs found to be unfit, the food being either surrendered for destruction or salvage, or returned to the suppliers in accordance with instructions issued from time to time by the Ministry of Food.

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	16 lbs. 11½ ozs.
Cereals	...	...	...	...	...	421 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	45 boxes; 36½ lbs
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	143.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	50½ stone.
Fish, canned	...	...	...	...	...	81 tins.
Fruit, bottled	...	...	...	...	...	1 bottle.
Fruit, canned	...	...	...	...	...	67 tins.
Fruit, frozen	...	...	...	...	...	24 packets.
Fruit Juices	...	...	...	...	...	7 tins.
Liver	...	...	...	...	...	35½ lbs.
Meat, cooked, and Meat Preparations	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.; 78 tins.
Meat, English	...	...	...	...	...	101 lbs. 7 ozs.
Meat, Imported	...	...	...	...	...	359¾ lbs.
Milk, condensed and evaporated	...	...	...	...	...	193 tins.
Paste	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin; 1 jar.
Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	47 bottles.
Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	42 birds.
Preserves	...	...	...	...	...	14 tins; 3 jars.
Puddings, various	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins.
Sauces, various	...	...	...	...	...	47 bottles.
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	31 tins; 1 packet.
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	...	7 tins.
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	173 tins.
Vegetables, frozen	...	...	...	...	...	12 packets.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Food and Drugs authority for this district is the Surrey County Council. The following is a summary of the work done by that authority during the year.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular			Prosecutions	Convictions
	Frml.	Infrml.	Total	Frml.	Infrml.	Total		
Milk	59	19	78	10	2	12	—	—
Custard Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit drink								
tablets	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
Honey	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ice-cream	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Meat, cooked								
and prepared	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Non-alcoholic								
wine	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Salad cream	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Sausage meat	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Totals :	66	24	90	12	3	15	—	—

Food Hawkers.

By section 65 of the Egham Urban District Council Act, 1948, which came into operation on 1st January, 1949, all hawkers of food within the district are required to register themselves, and the premises used by them as storage accommodation for food, with the Council. During the year 24 applications were approved for registration. Many food hawkers come into the urban district from other areas, particularly during the summer months and at weekends; the control of such vendors has proved somewhat difficult.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Influenza.

A mild outbreak.

Pneumonia.

One case was notified and was treated in hospital. Five deaths were reported, four being of persons normally resident in the area who died in hospitals in other districts.

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty cases were notified and seven were sent for treatment to the Isolation Hospital. The cases were of a mild type, and evenly distributed throughout the year, two or three occurring in each month.

Diphtheria.

One case occurred during the year. This was a boy, aged $2\frac{1}{2}$, living in a gypsy caravan. He had not been immunised. The case was of moderate severity, and the organism was of the intermediate type and virulent.

Measles.

Three hundred and thirty-seven cases were reported. There were no deaths, but there were one hundred and eighty-three more cases than in the previous year. Nearly half the cases occurred in the Englefield Green Ward, and one-third of the cases in the month of June.

Whooping Cough.

There were thirty-five cases; March, April and May were the three chief months of the epidemic.

Acute Poliomyelitis

Three cases were notified. Two cases occurred in March, a soldier, aged 20, at the Longcross Tank Testing Establishment, and a lady teacher, aged 23, at the Cooper's Hill Training College—both recovered. A mother of two small children, aged 28, died in six days in October.

Acute Polioencephalitis.

There was one case, a man aged 33, who died in three days. In November a male teacher, aged 28, from Cooper's Hill Training College took ill while on leave; he recovered. This case was notified in another district.

Erysipelas.

There was one case.

In addition sixty cases of chicken-pox, one hundred and eleven cases of mumps, two cases of jaundice, five cases of conjunctivitis, and one case of german measles were notified by the school authorities as occurring amongst school-children.

Tuberculosis.

There were thirty-eight cases added to the register during the year. Fourteen of these were transfers into the district, and twenty-four were new cases occurring in the district. Thirty-three cases were removed from the register during the year, leaving at the end of the year a total of 150 cases, 115 pulmonary and 35 non-pulmonary, a nett increase for the year of five. These figures still remain at the high level to which they rose during the war years, the comparable figures at the end of 1938 being a total of 62, comprising 46 pulmonary and 16 non-pulmonary cases.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1949

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
15—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	10	9	—	5	4	—	1	—

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action has been necessary under Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Disinfection.

The rooms of 26 houses were sprayed or fumigated, following cases of infectious disease.

Cancer.

Thirty-nine cases died from cancer during the year—19 males and 20 females, being 3 cases less than last year.

The age incidence of these 39 cases is as follows :—

0-10 11-20 21-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 61-70 71-80 81-90

Males	—	—	1	1	1	3	8	3	2
Females	—	—	—	1	—	3	10	5	1

The place incidence as regards Wards is as follows :—

	Town	Egham	Englefield	Virginia	Thorpe
		Hythe	Green	Water	
Males	7	4	5	2	1
Females	6	8	3	3	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Disease			Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	20	7
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	1
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)			—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	1*
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	—
Other Diseases notifiable locally			—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	—	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	3	3	1
Malaria Induced	...	...	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	35	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	337	2

* This death was an inward transfer.

† Four of these deaths were inward transfers.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE. The numbers of cases during the past five years are as follows :—

		1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Smallpox	...	...	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	9	34	29	5
Diphtheria	...	...	2	—	4	—
Erysipelas	...	...	5	1	2	4
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	1	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	3	1	—	1	—
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	25	—	12	13	9	19
Tuberculosis (non-Pulmonary)	2	—	12	2	3	5
Measles	...	...	181	18	222	154
Whooping Cough	...	...	31	11	85	124
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	...	...	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	9	10	18	4
Dysentery	...	...	7	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	1	1	2	1
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	1
		277	102	378	305	423

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Classified in Wards

WARDS	Acute Polio Encephalitis	Erysipelas	Measles	Pneumonia	Acute Anterior Polio-myelitis	Pul. T. B.	Non. Pul. T. B.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria
TOWN ...	—	—	69	—	—	4	1	10	4	—
EGHAM HYTHE ...	—	—	46	—	—	3	1	1	7	—
ENGLEFIELD GREEN	—	1	153	—	1	9	2	1	10	—
VIRGINIA WATER ...	1	—	53	—	2	2	1	4	2	1
THORPE ...	—	—	16	1	—	1	—	—	4	12
Totals ...	1	1	337	1	3	19	5	20	35	1

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES DURING 1949 UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Under							65 and over			Total	
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	
Smallpox	—
Scarlet Fever	2	12	5	1	—	20
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	6	2	9	3	10	—	1	—	35
Measles	9	29	41	33	39	179	4	1	2	337
Totals	13	36	44	42	44	201	9	3	6	399

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

The maternity service cares for the infants, school children attend the Eye Clinic at Kings Road, Egham, and the adults can also attend this clinic by arrangement.

The larger factories cater for the treatment of their own employees through their own First Air Posts.

Visitors call on the blind from time to time.

